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FRANK L. HOOBS.....MANAGER
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The Bill For Building Here

Congress is making a showing of fine liberality with regard to Hawaii in the opening days of the present session. The introduction of a bill in each house, by Pacific Coast members who are both men of extensive influence, providing an appropriation of \$1,400,000, is a very large beginning. The sum proposed will provide a splendid federal office building here. The sum is certainly as much as any Honolulu citizen would have asked for. It is not, however, more than the Territory has a right to and there is no good reason why the bills should not pass. It is probable nevertheless that opposition will develop and some of the economy men will doubtless attempt to reduce the amount.

There is one feature of the action at Washington which suggests a gratifying recognition of Hawaii by Pacific Coast men and a willingness to befriend the islands. By reason of our geographical position it seems natural that our friends in Congress should be especially the men from California, Oregon and Washington, and it is not surprising that California and Washington men should have taken the lead in the building appropriation. Without such friends in Congress Hawaii has little influence. A delegate is lost among the bigger men, with political influence behind them and even if he is able to make himself heard, he lacks the power which comes from a large electorate. Hawaii has nothing to offer the Republican party in the way of votes and it is more or less true in all party governments that the man who is heeded first is he who has voters behind him. The interests of Hawaii are in many respects identical with those of Western States, though we shall probably never have their aid getting in laborers such as our planters want. But Hawaii is vitally interested in the growth of Pacific ocean commerce and Pacific Coast ports should be naturally interested in seeing Honolulu improved as a port of call. Our business relations with San Francisco have long been very close and they are becoming more close with other Pacific Coast ports. It will be well for us if the men who act for California, Oregon and Washington in the House and Senate at Washington can be brought to feel sympathetic ties for their little neighbor Territory and to lend their friendly assistance to her delegate.

However, it must be remembered that the introduction of a bill to appropriate \$1,400,000 is by no means an assurance of a federal building. Even the passage of the bill will leave plenty of chance for delays if, like some Pacific Coast cities, we develop a long local quarrel over sites. Our Chamber of Commerce, however, has acted wisely in the matter of a site and the outlook is certainly very hopeful for the success of the efforts they and others have made. As for the credit, that is not always easy to fix in such matters. The action of Senator Perkins of California is natural, for Hawaii has no representation in the Senate. It seems a little strange that the bill did not make its appearance in the House through Delegate Kalaniana'ole. Perhaps fuller accounts of what has been going on will explain matters.

The Grand Jury Report

The report of the Federal Grand Jury is exactly what was expected by all men of unbiased minds who were familiar with the facts. The results of the election were too overwhelming, and the majorities too evenly distributed throughout the precincts of the islands to leave any basis for argument that there was any planned out fraud or that the much talked of numbers on the ballots had any determining effect on the election.

There are certain general principles which are applicable to election results which are an almost infallible test of whether there has been fraud or not. In the states these tests are well understood, and there the spectacle of a contest by a man who didn't get a quarter of the votes, is never seen.

These tests are the same in principle as are applied to any other contest. One of them, stated in the terminology of the race track is, "Did the several candidates run true to form?" In other words, was there consistency in the results as distributed throughout the Territory generally? Honesty and fairness in an election are the normal conditions. If this were not so, there would be an end to representative government. Fraud is therefore the exception. This is in the very nature of things. Honesty being normal, fraud is abnormal, and must be prompted and have agents for its accomplishment. Neither the agents nor the opportunity can be found in every precinct. If then, there is a homogeneity of results throughout the Territory, if there is a general tendency in the same direction observable in the vote throughout all the precincts; and particularly if variations can be accounted for by local conditions and circumstances; there is little to base belief of fraud upon, because the consistency, the homogeneity, is the normal, which is honesty and fairness.

Applying this test to the late election, were the results in the precincts where the numbers were torn off the ballots, as it was intended they should be, compatible with those in the precincts where it is claimed they were not torn off, and where, as a deduction, it is claimed fraud and coercion were perpetrated? Did one ticket run ahead or behind more in the general average in one set of precincts than in the other? A careful examination of results by precincts shows that there was exactly the kind of homogeneity that would be expected in the absence of fraud. The Republican victory was a general one. It was made up of victories in the large majority of the precincts. In other words, the election throughout "ran true to form."

Perhaps in no species of contests is the temptation to fraud so great and the difficulty of detecting it by the evidence of specific acts, so hedged round, as horse racing. Yet by the application of this test of form, which is merely a species of general average, the integrity of a really noble sport is maintained. It is the old principle of the consistency of action of those who have no sinister motive for being inconsistent. It is a principle recognized by the law, and applied in nearly every criminal trial held. Race horses have their habits which become known and which they follow unless swayed by accident or design. The application of the principle of "form" is a test of whether they followed habit, and in practice comes pretty nearly detecting fraud when it occurs, and of preventing it in the main.

Voters, as a rule, vote according to their honest beliefs and their political principles. Fraud or coercion are the chief motives to vary this. Fraud and coercion, in the nature of things cannot be either general or universal. If then there is a general consistency in the voting throughout the precincts; if the precincts in which it is charged that fraud or coercion took place do not vary from the normal of the whole number of precincts, any more than those in which fraud is not charged and does not appear, the allegation of fraud and coercion is pretty thoroughly negated. Such is the case in the present instance. The Republicans were generally victorious throughout the Territory. There was an evenness and a consistency in results that entirely negatives the idea of fraud or coercion unless it is established by other convincing proof, which it is not. There is in fact, as the grand jury in its majority report found, nothing to indicate anything other than an honestly conducted election in which every voter had the opportunity to vote his political principles.

Applying the rule of "form" to the larger field, and we find that the results of the election in Hawaii were entirely consistent with the results throughout the United States. It is reasonable to suppose that the same arguments and influences which affected the people of the mainland, and

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brought about such an overwhelming victory for the Republican party and Roosevelt, had their effect here, and brought about a similar result. According to "form" Hawaii ought to have gone overwhelmingly Republican, and she did. This is a pretty strong argument against the charge of fraud or coercion.

However there are lessons that the Republicans ought to learn from the election. One of these is that the party in control of the election machinery is held morally responsible not only for motives and what it intends and attempts to do, but for possibilities. The numbers on the ballots were placed there for a legitimate purpose, and in accordance with practice elsewhere. But to leave them on the ballot opens the door to such possibilities as the American people in their temperament for fair play do not approve. It was the patent possibilities of numbered ballots which were the real strength of the correspondence from here published in the New York Herald soon after the election, against which so much heat was exhibited. But the Republicans having complete control of the election machinery should have given such complete and explicit instructions to election officials that there would have been no failure in any precinct to tear them off every ballot given out. If this had been done even the appearance of evil would have been avoided. It was not done, and the way was left open for suspicious, partisan or biased minds to enter the wide fields of imagination. Let the party, let the Territory learn a lesson from this.

It was on the battleship Missouri, and not the battleship Massachusetts, that the explosion occurred in which young Neumann so well known here, lost his life.

It would seem that the Russian war vessel, the Sevastopol, is doomed. The Japanese government cablegrams have her sinking by the bow, and the Associated Press cables have her sinking by the stern. Between them, they ought to get her down to the bottom on an even keel.

Lewers & Cooke are distributing a vest pocket memorandum book in the form of a diary for the year. It is interesting, besides its usefulness, from the fact that one of the early pages is given up to a blank form for the identification, in case of death or accident, of the person who carries any particular copy of it. Ten years ago such a feature would be looked on as the product of a morbid mind, and anyone who carried it on carrying death. Now it

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utility is recognized, as is shown by the fact that it is made a feature of a book whose primary object is advertisement.

Some concern is expressed as to where the Russian Baltic fleet will go when it gets to the Far East. Perhaps it will go to the bottom. There is said to be plenty of room there for Russian vessels.

If it is true as reported, that there is danger that the transport service may be discontinued, it will be a severe blow to Honolulu. Here is a chance for the Merchants' Association and the Chamber of Commerce to get in their work, or at least to try.

It is a matter of congratulation that the Volcano House is likely to continue its usefulness and history, and perhaps take on a new lease of profit. It is to be hoped it will. The Volcano House has had a long and interesting career. The institution, not alone the present particular building, has sheltered many men and women famous or prominent in the world. It has figured in a great deal of literature some fugitive and some permanent. The volcano and the Volcano House have advertised the islands in the past as much as if not more than, any other single feature or institution. Here's success to the new management.

Before the idea of building extra offices on the verandas of the Capitol is put into effect it might be well to have the Public Works department explore the upper regions of the building. There are several fine rooms up there that are quite untenanted and there seems no reason why they should not be before the handsome building in the city is made to look like a Bad Lands shack. The Capitol has been altogether too much cut up as it is.

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